

COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Minutes of the meeting held on September 10, 1982

Present: M. Singer, Chairman, R. Breen, D. Taddeo, J. Chaikelson, R. Roy, C. Foster, C. Bertrand, K. Bindon, A. Galler, L. Sanders, B. Lewis, D. Dicks, R. Diubaldo, J. Doyle, C. Kalman, K. Kusano, D. McDougall, S. McEvenue, B. Petrie, E. Raudsepp, K. Riener, A. Ross, J. Ryan, B. Sahni, T. Arbuckle-Maag, H. Shulman, M. Squires, G. Taggart, J. Young, G. Trudel, F. MacLeod, A. Broes.

Guests: H. Proppe, G. Martin, J. Fiset, J. Griffin, S. Ferguson, A. Okwudi, E. Keirstead.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Provost Singer noted that there was an error in the spelling of Prof. Van Toch's name under item 8 b) in the agenda and asked to have it corrected.

82-8-1 It was moved and seconded (McEvenue/Sahni) to approve the agenda as corrected. Vote: Carried

3. Approval of Minutes

Before calling for the approval of the minutes of the last three meetings of Council Provost Singer, as the new Chairman of Council, thanked the Secretary of Council for her efforts to produce not only the minutes, but also other documents as well, and said that he appreciated her ability to get all the work done in time for this meeting.

The Chairman noted that two typographical errors had been caught in the minutes of May 7 on pages 1 and 2 that had been taken care of; if there were others, he suggested that the secretary be informed or alternatively, to draw attention to them at this meeting.

82-8-2 It was moved and seconded (Ryan/Raudsepp) to approve the minutes of the meetings of Council held on April 22, May 7, and May 25, 1982. Vote: Carried

4. Chairman's Remarks

Provost Singer informed the members of Council that the Steering Committee had debated for a considerable length of time the question

of not having this meeting because the agenda, until the Vice-Rector had agreed to come to the meeting to speak on the current economic situation in the University, was meagre. The decision was made that since there had been an intervening three-month period and the fact that the legal mandate of the Steering Committee had come to an end the meeting would be held. He gave his assurance that if there is a future agenda like this one, without the Vice-Rector's remarks, the meeting would be cancelled.

Provost Singer announced that Prof. Lila Van Toch had been appointed Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and would be responsible for instituting the Academic Advising System approved last spring. Her appointment is for one year and he asked the members of Council to give her their co-operation in her effort to humanize and de-bureaucratize the system while simultaneously expressing the sentiments that were expressed in May.

The Provost reminded the members of Council that it was not too early for individuals to submit nominations to the Steering Committee for honorary degrees. The announcement was made at this time in order to avoid the usual problem, when nominations are submitted at the end of the period, of not being able to consider them properly or being unable to get the proper documentation.

Provost Singer reported that it was his understanding that the Fahey Committee had concluded its deliberations and had prepared a report on its opinion about the future of the University which would be delivered to a meeting of the Board of Governors the following week. Once the report is accepted by the Board, copies will be made available for general distribution according to *The Thursday Report* route, and Faculty Councils will be asked to debate the merits of the report. Provost Singer said that it is likely that Steering Committee will recommend that a meeting, or some portion thereof, be devoted to a full discussion of the issues that are raised in the Fahey Report.

In addition, it was reported that the Peat Marwick Study, which was more externally than internally oriented, would be distributed within the next several weeks which would result in there being two documents on the future of the University to be debated.

The Chairman announced that he had asked the secretary of Council, as a result of a number of requests over the last few years, to go through the last six years of Council minutes to try to gather together a notion of the procedures by which this body operates. He said that the package collected for distribution at this meeting (ASFC 82-9-D1) was not a definitive list but the first installment of a number of packages to be given out.

Finally, on behalf of Steering Committee, the Chairman reported that it had decided not to announce for the next meeting of Council elections of new Appraisals Committees for Departments. The Steering Committee thought it inappropriate to proceed with more evaluations requiring more committees until Council has a chance to review

the evaluation process which has taken place over the past year. He said that it was his understanding that the Curriculum Committee will forward eight of the nine reports to the Steering Committee in time for discussion to take place at the October Council meeting. He expected that at the November or December Council meeting there would be a review or a recommendations to Council about the future of the appraisals process.

Business Arising from the Minutes

With reference to business arising from the minutes regarding his last remarks, Provost Singer recalled that at the May meeting of Council he, as one of the four appraisals committees' chairmen, said he would convene a meeting of those chairmen to make a recommendation to Council in September. Since then he discussed the matter with Dean Taddeo and together they decided it would be more appropriate to postpone the meeting until all the appraisals reports have been received.

At the May 7 meeting of Council the suggestion was made that the Deans should make a recommendation to Council about which administrator should sit on the Registration Committee. Provost Singer reported that it was decided that Dean Taddeo should sit on the Committee and that Asst. Dean Van Toch should be a member, ex-officio.

At the May 25 meeting of Council the last item dealt with on the agenda was Prof. Fraser's graduation prize and the inability of Council to proceed with it because it had not gone through the appropriate departmental channels. Provost Singer reported that Vice-Rector Breen had written to the Registrar asking for a clarification of the situation and that he, himself, had been in touch with a number of chairmen. He gave his assurance that the matter would be resolved before the next graduation ceremony. He concluded by saying that the situation was more complex than it was first thought to be.

5. Questions and Announcements

Provost Singer announced that he had been informed by Vice-Rector Breen that Vice-Rector G. Martin would join the meeting later to speak on the current economic situation in the University.

6. Schedule of Meetings of the Council of the Faculty of Arts and Science (ASFC 82-8-D2)

2-8-3 It was moved and seconded (Trudel/Sahni) to approve the schedule of meetings for the Steering Committee and the Council of the Faculty of Arts and Science (ASFC 82-8-D2). Vote: Carried

7. Elections

a) Steering Committee

A ballot on which was listed the names of the current members of Council was distributed. Adjustments were made for those members of Council who had a scheduled class at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, or had not served at least one year on any Council

previously.

On the first ballot Prof. Sahni was elected in Division II and Prof. Kalman in Division III.

On the second ballot Prof. Ryan was elected in Division I. and Prof. Bindon was elected in Division IV.

Provost Singer noted that the composition of Steering Committee included two student representatives, but that elections for those positions could not take place at this meeting because Council had not yet been officially notified of the names of the students who had been elected to sit on Council for the current year. He gave notice that the item would appear on the agenda of the next meeting, under elections to be held, subject to the appointment of student representatives on the Council.

8. Elections to Take Place at the October Meeting of Council

The Chairman drew the attention of the members of Council to agenda Item 8, Elections to Take Place at the October Meeting, and invited members to submit nominations for the committees to Steering Committee. He added that he would be willing to accept nominations by telephone and gave his office number.

9. The Vice-Rectors' Remarks

Dr. Breen expressed his pleasure over being able once again to speak to the members of Council. He recalled his remarks to Council at the meeting held last May and referred to the compressions that were expected of the University over the next few years and the changes that were being made in the University in order to cope with a very tight situation. He said that with the start of the new year some information had been received from the government concerning the distribution of funds and asked Vice-Rector Martin to explain the present financial situation.

Vice-Rector Martin opened his remarks by saying that the situation for 1982-83 was still somewhat confused. With regard to the cumulative deficit he stated that as of 31 May 1981, it amounted to 4.5 million dollars while in the statement submitted to the Board of Governors for this year, as of 31 May 1982, it has been reduced to 2.5 million. He gave details as to how that had been achieved. He continued by saying that a set of calculations had been received from the government in August based on data from early June which were supposedly definitive figures except for one consideration, that of the affect of Bill 70. He gave the formula for the calculations and indicated that provision had been made for a 2.7% increase over last year's budget. He then speculated on the outcome of the application of Bill 70 to the salary item in the budget.

With regard to student enrolment Vice-Rector Martin reviewed the funding formula and reported that there was an increase of approximately

500 new students above the number recorded for last year. This is still an unofficial statistic. This increase is consistent with the increase in new students registered in other universities in Quebec, the effect of which is still unknown.

The University is at present operating on a provisional budget approved in May which shows a predicted deficit of 2.75 million dollars which if added to the cumulative deficit would bring the total to the end of the year to about five million. Vice-Rector Martin concluded his remarks by saying that his most optimistic outlook was that we would end the year on a break-even situation while his most pessimistic view was that we would have a deficit between five and seven million dollars. He expected that the answers would come from the government sometime in October or November.

Prof. Martin answered questions from the floor.

Vice-Rector Breen reviewed the University enrolment figures for 1981-82 and noted the marked decline in registration in the Faculty of Arts and Science as well as the overall drop in part-time students. He then reported on the dramatic increase in registration of full-time students for the current year, the consequences of which were now under study. Dr. Breen noted that similar increases in full-time enrolment has been experienced throughout Canada and suggested that it is a temporary phenomenon caused by the high unemployment situation. He emphasized that everything possible must be done to prepare for troubled times in the future and gave several reasons for the anticipated drop in university enrolment. He paid particular attention to the significant increase in the number of part-time students, both undergraduate and graduate level, registered at other universities and the resulting decline in part-time registration at Concordia.

Dr. Breen reiterated his view of the long-term future of Concordia and of the Arts and Science Faculty in particular. He thought it incumbent upon faculty to show that there is reason for a different approach to education. He emphasized again the need to achieve a unique character through the development of a core curriculum and provision for more flexibility within programmes, the continuation of the growth of the colleges and of co-operative education. He urged all departments to become involved in the core curriculum study.

Aware of the exodus of anglophones from Quebec in recent years, Dr. Breen saw a role for Concordia in providing students who are graduating with the opportunity of remaining and contributing to the development of the province. As part of a core curriculum, the Faculty could prepare a package of course offerings in French language/civilization and Quebec culture/history. On the matter of core curriculum, the Vice-Rector noted the importance of providing as much flexibility as possible to allow for the complementarity between Arts and Science, as well as respecting the requirements of external professional bodies.

The Vice-Rector concluded his remarks by saying that the challenge which lies ahead would require as much creativity and imagination as is possible, that that challenge had been accepted in the past and could be met in the future.

Dr. Breen answered questions from the floor of Council.

10. Other Business

Prof. Proppe referred to the article which appeared in the latest issue of *The Link* concerning the drug situation in the Hall building and communicated his outrage to Council. He asked if the administration had done all it can to put a stop to the action.

Provost Singer informed Council that the matter had been discussed at a PRET meeting last year and that Vice-Rector Martin's view then was that very little could be done to deny access to a public building and that the security guards did not have the authority to remove someone from the premises. He offered to speak to Mr. Barnabe regarding security operations and to report back at the next meeting.

- 82-8-4 It was moved and seconded (Trudel/Petrie) to authorize Provost Singer to ask Mr. Barnabe, Director of Security, for a report on the drug situation on both the Sir George Williams and Loyola campuses and to give comparative information for McGill, and if possible, the High Schools. Vote: Carried

11. Next Meeting

October 8. 1982

12. Adjournment

- 82-8-5 The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. (Sahni/McEvenue)